

Chc/Lat 61
Fall '08

CHICANA/O-LATINA/O STUDIES 6I
INTRODUCTION TO LATINA/O STUDIES I

FALL 2008
TUESDAY
3:30 p.m.-6:20 p.m.
SSPA 1100

Instructor: Professor Ana Elizabeth Rosas
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Discussion Sections:

Wednesday	11:00-11:50 a.m.	SST 120
Wednesday	1:00- 1:50 p.m.	SSL 145
Wednesday	3:00- 3:50 p.m.	SST 120

This course explores the changing shape of the twentieth century Latina/o experience within and beyond the national boundaries of the United States. Over the past 150 years people of Latino birth or descent in the United States have navigated across economic, cultural, and political boundaries, and consciously made decisions with regards to their production of distinctive identities and cultures rooted in ethnicity, race, gender, generation, citizenship, class, immigration/migration, sexuality, and region. By considering Latina/o women, children, and men in the transformation of the Latina/o experience, students will advance their understanding of the diversity of issues and developments driving this history.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

George J. Sánchez, *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture, and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles* (Oxford University Press, 1995).

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, *Doméstica: Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence* (Second Edition: University of California Press, 2007).

Luis Alvarez, *The Power of the Zoot: Youth Culture and Resistance during World War II* (University of California Press, 2008).

Adrian Burgos, *Playing America's Game: Baseball, Latinos, and the Color Line* (University of California Press, 2007).

Book chapters distributed electronically.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attending course lectures and discussion sections is mandatory. It is the student's responsibility to sign in during each of our course lecture and discussion section meetings.

Thoughtful, prepared, and respectful discussion of assigned readings during course lectures and discussion sections and completion of in-class assignments are mandatory and will be reflected in the grade for participation.

The writing requirement for the course consists of two types of assignments: 1) two analytical essays on course lectures, readings, and screenings; and 2) a final analytical essay on course lectures, readings, and screenings discussed throughout the entirety of the course.

The final course grade will be based on the following:

Classroom Participation:	(20%)
Essay #1:	(20%)
Essay #2:	(20%)
Final Essay:	(40%)

Grades will not be based on the curve. Each assignment will be evaluated on its own merits, using the scale outlined below:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Essays:

The completion of two analytical essays is mandatory. Each essay should be between four and five pages, and address one of several essay topics based on themes and select course readings and screenings raised in class discussions.

Essays should be legibly typed or word processed, with reasonable fonts, double spacing, and 1 inch margins. Please stay within the assigned page limits. A late essay will be penalized half a grade for every 24 hour period the essay is late.

Essays will be due on the following dates:

Essay:

- 1) Essay #1
- 2) Essay #2

Due date:

October 28, 2008
November 18, 2008

Final Essay:

Students are required to write an eight to nine page analytical essay that addresses one of several essay topics based on course themes raised throughout the course. Unlike other course essay assignments, this essay requires students to draw from course lecture, reading, and screening examples discussed *throughout* the quarter. This final essay assignment will be distributed on the last course lecture meeting, and will be due on December 9, 2008. It will be graded on the quality of your argument and analytical depth and diversity of course materials used.

Neither electronic nor late submissions of this assignment will be accepted.

COURSE POLICIES:

Academic Honesty:

Your work in this course is governed by the Academic Honesty policy of the University of California, Irvine. This policy is available at:
www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/9_IrvineManual/3ASMAppendices/Appendix08.html

If you have questions concerning how the academic honesty policy applies to any assignment for this course, please feel free to consult the professor.

Cellular phones and blackberries must be turned off during course lectures and discussion sections.

Assigned readings must be completed before course lectures and discussion sections.

E-mail submissions of written assignments will not be accepted.

SCREENINGS

Screenings are an important component of this course. Students are required to screen and take careful note of specific examples (case studies, historical moments, and characterizations) depicted in these in course representations of the Latina/o experience. Students should use these screenings as an opportunity to reflect on the complexity of the Latina/o experience.

EXTRA CREDIT

Students can pursue extra credit by completing *any* of the following yet *no more than two* of this course's three extra credit assignments. *Successful* completion of an extra credit assignment will improve your *lowest* essay assignment grade by half a letter grade.

Extra Credit Assignment 1:

Students are required to attend Dr. Jorge Mariscal's (Professor, University of California, San Diego) presentation, "*Who's Afraid of the Chicano Movement?*"

This presentation is scheduled to take place on October 29, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the UCI Student Center, Emerald Bay B.

After attending this presentation, students must write and submit a two to three page response to the following questions:

How is the Chicano Movement portrayed in this presentation? What is Dr. Mariscal trying to say about the Chicano Movement? What did you find most insightful about this presentation?

This extra credit assignment is due on November 4, 2008 at the beginning of our course lecture meeting.

Extra Credit Assignment 2:

Students are required to read any of the following novels, and write and submit a three page response to the following questions:

How is Latina/o identity formation portrayed in this novel? What does this portrayal tell us about the interplay of ethnicity, race, class, and gender?

Novels:

Ana Castillo, *The Guardians* (Random House, 2007)

Junot Diaz, *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (Riverhead Books, 2007)

Carlos Eire, *Waiting for Snow in Havana* (Free Press, 2003)

Alex Espinoza, *Still Water Saints* (Random House, 2007)

Reyna Grande, *Across a Hundred Mountains* (Simon and Schuster, 2007)

These novels can be checked out at our campus library or purchased online.

Students are welcome to read two of these novels, and write two respective three page response papers toward their pursuit of two extra credit assignments.

This extra credit assignment is due on November 25, 2008 at the beginning of our course lecture meeting.

Extra Credit Assignment 3:

Students are required to listen to spoken word artist's Marisela Norte's recording, "NORTE/word" (1991), and write and submit a three page response to the following questions:

Is there a central message about gender that this recording presents? How is this message similar or different to other representations of gender you have encountered in this course?

This recording can be obtained from the professor or purchased online.

This extra credit assignment is due on December 2, 2008 at the beginning of our course lecture meeting.

Neither electronic nor late submission of these extra credit assignments will be accepted.

COURSE SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1: RACIAL CATEGORIES VS. SOCIAL REALITIES

September 30

Introduction to Course

Reading:

Becoming Mexican American (Part I, pgs. 3-87)

Screening:

"Race: The Power of an Illusion: Episode 2: The Story We Tell" (2003)

Week 2: AMERICANIZATION

October 7

Reading:

Becoming Mexican American (Part II and Part III, pgs. 88-209)

Screening: Excerpts from *"Ask the Dust"* (2006)

Week 3: IMMIGRANTS, MIGRANTS, AND REPATRIATES

October 14

Reading:

Becoming Mexican American (Part IV, pgs. 209-275)

Screening:

"The Ballad of an Unsung Hero" (1984)

Week 4: GENDERED TRANSITIONS

October 21

Reading:

The Power of the Zoot (Part I and II, pgs. 15-154)

Xochitl Castaneda and Patricia Zavella, "Changing Constructions of Sexuality and Risk: Migrant Mexican Women Farmworkers in California," *Women and Migration in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands* (Duke University Press, 2007) (pgs. 249-269) (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Screening:

Excerpts from *"The Ring"* (1952) and *"Salt of the Earth"* (1954)

Week 5: "YOUTH" CULTURES

October 28

Reading:

The Power of the Zoot (Part III, pgs. 155-244)

Screening:

"Zoot Suit Riots" (2002)

ESSAY #1 DUE

Week 6: NOT COMMERCIAL ENOUGH

November 4

Reading:

Playing America's Game (Part I and II, pgs. 17-178)

Screening:

"Balseros" (2002)

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT DUE

Week 7: NO COURSE LECTURE-VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY

November 11

Reading:

Playing America's Game (Part III, pgs. 179-268)

Screening:

"Roberto Clemente" (2008)

You are required to screen this documentary on your own and online through the following weblink:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/clemente/program/>

Week 8: RESISTANCE

November 18

Reading:

Ernesto Chavez, "Birth of a Symbol: The Brown Berets" and "Chale! No We Won't Go!" *Mi Raza Primero!* (University of California Press, 2000) (pgs. 42-80) (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Marisela Chavez, "We Lived and Breathed the Movement," *Las Obreras: Chicana Politics of Work and Family* (UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center Publications, 2000) (pgs. 83-106) (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Marisela Chavez, "Pilgrimage to the Homeland: California Chicanas and International Women's Year, Mexico City, 1975" *Memories and Migrations* (University of Illinois Press, 2008) (pgs. 170-196) (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Screening:
Excerpts from "Harvest of Shame" (1960) and "Made in L.A." (2007)

ESSAY #2 DUE

Week 9: THE RECONFIGURATION OF IMMIGRATION REFORM
November 25

Reading:
Doméstica (Part I and II, pgs. 3-136)

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Women and Children First: New Directions in Anti-Immigrant Politics," *American Families: A Multicultural Reader*: 288-305. (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Screening: Excerpts from "El Norte" (1983) and "Guatemala: The Secret Files" (2008)

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT DUE

Week 10: HOMEWARD BOUND
December 2

Reading:
Doméstica (Part III: pgs. 137-244)

Alisa Salomon, "Trans/Migrant: Christina Madrazo's All American Story," in *Queer Migrations* (pgs. 2-29) (ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION)

Screening:
Excerpts from "American Family" (Episodes: La Llorona Part I and II) (2006) and "Mexican Crimes at the Border" (2008)

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT DUE

**DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ANALYTICAL ESSAY
ASSIGNMENT**

December 9

**FINAL ANALYTICAL ESSAY DUE
AT 4:00 P.M. IN SOCIAL SCIENCE TOWER 391**